

Suffolk-Nansemond Historical Society

Post Office Box 1255

Suffolk, Virginia 23434

March 8, 1985

Dear Member:

Our next meeting will be held Sunday afternoon, March 24, 3 PM at Riddick's Folly. Kermit Hobbs will present a program on local history. He will cover his upcoming pictorial history book on Suffolk and will discuss and display some of the pictures that will be included. Members have requested more programs dealing with local history. Kermit knows his subject well and we shall have an excellent program.

In an effort to improve and help complete his project, Kermit has requested members bring their old photographs to the meeting. He will have the necessary equipment to copy them for his and the Society's files.

Our membership dinner at the Holiday Inn on January 22 was a great success with approximately 125 members attending. Former Governor Mills E. Godwin, Jr. - an excellent historian and a member of our Society - provided an outstanding and informative program. We should get together like this more often.

We would like to call your attention to a lecture series on The Family presented by the Virginia Foundation For The Humanities. They will be held at 3 PM each Sunday in March at the Senior Citizen's Center (American Legion Home) 350 North Main Street. The Historical Society is sponsoring "To The Light House" by Virginia Wolff, given by Nancy Bazin of O.D.U. on March 17. Refreshments will be served.

Barbara Ryder reports the Education Committee will choose the recipient of the Hill Kilby award from seven nominees. This award is given to the Suffolk teacher who, in the opinion of the Committee, has been outstanding in instilling an appreciation of history in his or her students. At the Committee's suggestion, we have purchased a slide projector and they are accumulating pictures to improve and update our slide program. Members are also learning the North Main Street house tour so as to give the regulars a breather.

The Publications Committee is restocking pamphlets and investigating a new printing of note paper. Sales on both items have been good. They are also currently reviewing a manuscript put together by a Suffolk lady dealing with the history of the Nansemond River.

The Historical Collections Committee will resume its efforts on the sorting and cataloging of our items shortly. We are in the process of building some temporary shelves for use in our top floor room at Riddick's Folly. We are also investigating the possibility of a Federal grant that would supply funds for the restoration and storage of our papers.

Lynn Rose advises that her Genealogy Committee is contacting other organizations in their continuous efforts to accumulate area family histories. Please, as a member of the Historical Society, let us have your letters, Bibles, deeds, certificates, etc. so we can copy them for our files.

We are pleased that we have recently received several memorial gifts. We would like to encourage this and appropriate cards are being printed to thank the donors.

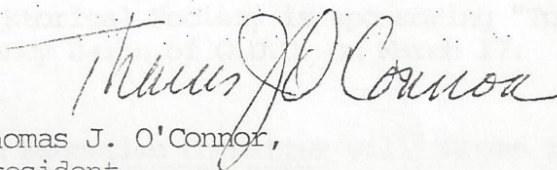
You have read in the newspapers of the formation of an historical district in the general area of Pinner Street here in Suffolk. An organization is now being formed for the revitalization of the central business district. It is intended that historical aspects of these areas will be promoted and the Society has offered to help in an advisory capacity.

A committee of eight Holland area members is examining the possibility of holding our Candlelight Tour in that community December 1, 1985. Previously we have had successful tours in Chuckatuck and the Driver-Bennetts Creek areas. We will meet with them March 11 and are pleased at the prospect of going back out into "the county".

We are continuing to add to our membership with some fifteen to twenty new members since our last letter. We will try, prior to the May meeting, to reprint an updated membership list.

The final meeting of our fiscal year will be held 7:30 PM, May 21. We will announce the program in a subsequent newsletter. In the meantime, we will appoint a nominating committee to bring in a slate of officers for the next two years. We have a good organization and want to keep our momentum. We will look forward to seeing you on March 24 and please remember to bring your old pictures and papers.

Yours very truly,



Thomas J. O'Connor,
President

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